

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A An imaging composition for enhancing obtaining images ~~obtained~~ by medical diagnostic imaging procedures comprising in combination:

one or more particles selected from the group consisting of gadolinium, zinc, magnesium, manganese, calcium and compounds thereof; and

one or more microsphere shells each having an inner wall and an outer wall and encapsulating one or more particles between the inner and outer walls,

~~wherein the composition is effective for enhancing~~ effective in a single dose in an in vivo administration for obtaining images obtained using more than one imaging modality ~~as compared to images obtained without the composition.~~

2. (original) A composition in accordance with claim 1, wherein the one or more particles are selected from the group consisting of gadolinium and gadolinium compounds.

3. (original) A composition in accordance with claim 2, wherein the one or more particles are gadolinium oxide.

4. (original) A composition in accordance with claim 2, wherein the gadolinium particles and gadolinium compound particles are spherical.

5. (original) A composition in accordance with claim 2, wherein the gadolinium particles and gadolinium compound particles have diameters of no more than about 450 angstroms.

6. (original) A composition in accordance with claim 4, wherein the gadolinium particles and gadolinium compound particles have diameters of no more than about 450 angstroms.

7. (original) A composition in accordance with claim 1, wherein the microsphere shells include a protein substance.

8. (original) A composition in accordance with claim 1, wherein the microsphere shells are selected from the group consisting of bovine serum albumin, human serum albumin, lipids, liposomes, pepsin, gelatin, dextrose, dextrose-albumin, an antibody shell, and combinations thereof.

9. (withdrawn) A composition for use in vivo during neutron capture therapy comprising a gadolinium particle or a gadolinium compound particle encapsulated in a microsphere shell.

10. (withdrawn) A composition in accordance with claim 9, wherein the gadolinium particle or gadolinium compound particle is spherical.

11. (withdrawn) A composition in accordance with claim 10, wherein the gadolinium compound particle is gadolinium oxide.

12. (withdrawn) A composition in accordance with claim 9, wherein the microsphere shell includes a protein substance.

13. (withdrawn) A composition in accordance with claim 9, wherein the microsphere shell is selected from the group consisting of bovine serum albumin, human serum albumin, lipids, liposomes, pepsin, gelatin, dextrose, dextrose-albumin, an antibody shell, and combinations thereof.

14. (currently amended) A method of ~~enhancing~~ obtaining images using medical diagnostic imaging modalities comprising:

administering in vivo a an imaging composition comprising a suspension of ~~microspheres~~ microsphere shells having inner and outer walls encapsulating between the inner and outer walls one or more particles selected from the group consisting of gadolinium particles, zinc, magnesium, manganese, calcium and compounds thereof, the imaging composition administered in an amount effective for ~~enhancing~~ obtaining images ~~obtained by more than one~~ using two or more imaging modalities;

obtaining a first image using a first imaging modality; and

obtaining a second image using a second imaging modality different from the first imaging modality .

15. (original) A method in accordance with claim 14, wherein the imaging modalities include ultrasound, magnetic resonance and computed tomography.

16. (withdrawn) A method of neutron capture therapy for treating cancerous cells comprising administering to a patient a composition including a plurality of gadolinium particles or gadolinium compound particles encapsulated in microsphere shells to a predetermined area containing the cancerous cells and applying a source of thermal neutron irradiation to the predetermined area in a manner effective for causing the gadolinium particles or gadolinium compound particles to release radiation for treating the cancerous cells.

17. (new) A method in accordance with claim 14, wherein the second image is obtained without administration of an additional amount of the imaging composition to obtain the second image.

18. (new) A method in accordance with claim 14, wherein the second image is obtained without administration of an amount of another imaging composition to obtain the second image.

19. (new) A method in accordance with claim 14, wherein the one or more particles are gadolinium particles.

20. (new) A method in accordance with claim 14, wherein the one or more particles are gadolinium compound particles.

21. (new) A method in accordance with claim 14, wherein the one or more particles are gadolinium oxide particles.

22. (new) A method in accordance with claim 14, wherein the microsphere shells include a protein substance.